

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COPENH 03445 250950Z
ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 AGRE-00 STR-07 AID-05
CEA-01 CIAE-00 FRB-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02
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R 250858Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6584
INFO EC COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS COPENHAGEN 3445

USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: BE
SUBJ: EC DIRECTIVE ON STANDARDS OF FILL FOR BEER CONTAINERS

REFS: (A) STATE 75963, (B) COPENHAGEN 2128

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE COMPLETE TEXT OF A NOTE VERBALE
DATED MAY 23, 1977, ON THE QUESTION OF STANDARDS OF FILL
FOR BEER CONTAINERS:

"REFERENCE IS MADE TO THE MEMORANDUM OF MARCH 29, 1978,
CONCERNING A REQUEST TO THE DANISH GOVERNMENT TO PER-
SUADE THE EC COMMISSION TO INCLUDE IN AMDNDMENT (B)
COLUMN 1 OF EC COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 75/106/EEC ON THE
PACKAGING OF LIQUIDS THE EQUIVALENTS OF US 10 AND 12
OUNCE BEER CONTAINERS SO AS TO ALLOW SALES IN THE COM-
MUNITY OF SAID US BEER CONTAINER SIZES AFTER 31
DECEMBER 1980.

IN REPLY, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE MINISTRY OF
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND THE MINISTRY OF THE EN-
VIRONMENT, THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS THE
HONOUR TO INFORM THE EMBASSY THAT BEER IS SOLD IN
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DENMARK ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY IN .33 LITRE RETURN
BOTTLES. A SMALL QUANTITY IS SOLD IN .45 LITRE
CANS. DANISH BREWERIES AND IMPORTERS OF FOREIGN
BEER HAVE AGREED AMONG THEMSELVES TO STOP THE SALE
OF CANNED BEER BY THE END OF 1981 AND TO REDUCE THE
SALE GRADUALLY DURING THE REMAINING PERIOD.
THE AGREEMENT WAS MADE MAINLY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL

REASONS, BUT REFLECTS ALSO THE AIM OF THE DIRECTIVE
TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF NEARLY IDENTICAL SIZES.

AS THE DANISH GOVERNMENT HAS SUPPORTED THIS AIM IN
ORDER TO MAKE THE MARKET MORE TRANSPARENT TO CON-
SUMERS IT HAS NO POSSIBILITY OF SUPPORTING AT THE
SAME TIME THE WISH OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
TO HAVE EITHER THE 10 AND 12 OUNCE SIZES OR THE 12
OUNCE SIZE SHIFTED TO COLUMN 1 IN DIRECTIVE 75/106/
EEC."

2. COMMENT: AS CAN BE SEEN FROM THE FOREGOING, THE
DANES ARE NOT ONLY NOT SYMPATHETIC TOWARD THE U.S.
10 AND 12 OUNCE SIZES BUT ARE ALSO OPPOSED, FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL REASONS, TO THE SALES OF BEER IN
CANS.
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Message Attributes

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